

# PARIS EXPECTS A COUP DE MAIN WITHIN 48 HOURS

heights on the right bank of the Aisne in the face of the enemy, who appears to be reinforcing his line by bringing troops from Lorraine.

Second—In the centre the Germans have not budged from the deep trenches which they have constructed. On our right wing the army of the Crown Prince Frederick William continues its movement of retreat. Our advance in Lorraine is steady.

Taking it all together both sides, heavily entrenched, continue attacks in different places along the whole front without having a decisive result on one side or the other.

There is positive ground for asserting that the allies are planning a new offensive stroke designed to crush the German defence. Gen. Pau, the man of the hour, was at Bordeaux to-day conferring with the cabinet. His presence at the temporary capital at the most critical period of the Aisne combat means that France is still attacking and that a coup de main is contemplated. If matters were going badly along the Aisne Gen. Pau could not have left the army. That he left at all indicates new strategy.

## Big News Expected Soon.

It was Gen. Pau whose dash and genius halted the right wing of the Germans at the Marne and forced their retreat. Pau is Joffre's hammer, hurled this way or that as imperious necessity modifies the plans of the General Staff. Paris expects great news from the Aisne within forty-eight hours.

It is possible to read between the lines of the Government's brief reports issued to-day. It is known that Gen. von Kluck, on the German right wing, has not been able to assume an offensive demanded by the situation. Fighting with the utmost skill and stubbornness, von Kluck has been compelled to give way slightly before the tremendous assaults of British and French. His inability to go forward has forced von Buelow, whose centre is near Craonne, to continue the defensive, and it is certain that von Buelow's army was punished heavily to-day on the Craonne plateau.

Reims is for the moment the key to the battle line. French military critics aver. They assume that the most powerful blows have been struck at the allies north of Reims for the double purpose of relieving the strain upon von Kluck and von Buelow on the German right and the Crown Prince at Montfaucon on the German left, and to hasten through the French centre as the first step of another grand advance. We do not know here who is commanding the allies at Reims, but there is a suggestion that Gen. Joffre may be directing the present operations there. The situation is considered satisfactory from the French viewpoint, as the allies continually repel assaults upon Reims and maintain their grip upon the important railway lines and roads from the south and west.

## A Desperate Stand.

The Germans are making a desperate stand along the road between Laon and Reims. For three days the battle at this point has centred at a hill of great strategic importance. Three times the French and English have taken this hill and three times they have been repulsed.

On each occasion they have charged the hill with infantry and light artillery, while their attack was supported by heavy guns operated from a hill back of their line, a mile and a half to the south. They fought their way to the crest at every attempt, but could not hold the hard gained position on account of the devastating fire of the German artillery.

Every time they were driven back down the slope. As they retreated they were charged by the German cavalry, but at the base of the hill they have never failed to halt and hurl back the counter attack. The third desperate assault was made to-day and was again repulsed.

The crucial point of the battle is at this point. There is little detailed information from the east of the battle line regarding the operations against the Crown Prince. It is assumed that he has by no means escaped the possibility of envelopment, and it is known that he has been compelled to seek intrenchments as he slowly retired.

## Awful Toll of Lives.

Every unofficial report of the battle, rather the simultaneous battles, makes it certain that the loss of life is stag-

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gering and that the success of one side or another swings upon reinforcements. If the ordinary calculation, that such combats long drawn out cost armies from 20 to 25 per cent. of their effective forces, holds good the losses in killed, wounded and prisoners on each side may aggregate from 200,000 to 250,000 men.

That is the merest speculation, but there can be no doubt that the casualties have been more terrible than in the battle of the Marne with its six days of incessant night and day fighting. Eyewitnesses from the front, wounded officers and soldiers, familiar with only limited fields of battle, assert that the number of dead and wounded is appalling, and that in the places from which they came they saw the ground literally covered with victims of artillery fire.

Apparently the Germans have clung to their tactics of close formation when making counter attacks from their intrenchments. The wonderful 75 millimeter guns of the French artillery, operated from the ridges of the Aisne and the wooded slopes of the Oise, have been unbelievably effective. But the allies, it is feared, have lost greater numbers, proportionately, than in the battle of the Marne. Although the series of Aisne battles have thus far been mostly gigantic artillery duels there have been terrific engagements of infantry in which the allies, attacking protected positions, lost heavily.

Open fighting has been more persistent at the west of the battle line and near the centre than elsewhere. The infantry clashes between the British and Germans have gone on night and day. The Germans have bent every effort to cripple the British force.

## British Repeat Charges.

In the vicinity of Noyon and Chauny the British have charged the German positions frequently, often penetrating woods where German batteries were concealed. The valor of British aviators has inspired Paris. These flying soldiers are reported to have taken the most unheard of chances in spying out the position of German batteries, often wheeling over positions from which hundreds of shots were fired at them.

For forty-eight hours there have been cold, heavy rains along the line of battle. Weather conditions have increased the difficulties of each side, but have hurt the Germans more than the allies, it is assumed, the reason being that the infantry trenches are half filled with water. Rain and miry country have made it difficult for both sides to manoeuvre batteries.

There were reports to-night that the artillery fire of the allies had increased in violence since early this morning and that attempts are being pushed to penetrate weakened sections of the German line.

## ALLIES' TASK TERRIFIC.

German Position Said to Be Almost Impregnable.

LONDON, Sept. 19.—The situation on the great battle line in northern France on Thursday is described by the Daily Express correspondent, telegraphing from Soissons, as follows:

"The great artillery duel continues unabated, and the position is the same as it was four days ago. The Germans have prepared elaborate trenches and barbed wire approaches to protect the positions of their heavy guns behind the hill crest. 'If we held the same position we would never be shifted while our ammunition lasted. We realize the serious task which faces the allies.'

"The infantry losses must be extremely heavy. The aeroplanes of the allies are doing splendid service. Last night one located a train filled with retreating German soldiers, and the pilot dropped a torch to indicate the range. Our artillery blew the train to atoms in a few minutes. 'We are having frightful weather. Tor-

rents of rain fall almost incessantly, the trenches are full of water and as a consequence, there is something like an epidemic of rheumatism among the troops. 'It is reported that a German force, with a General in command, has been surrounded in the forest near Chateau Thierry.

"The allies are now massing enormous bodies of troops, and everything points to the probability of one of the bloodiest battles of the campaign as a sequel to five days of fighting."

## PARIS IS CONFIDENT.

Calmly Awaits Outcome of the G-entle Struggle.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. PARIS, Sept. 19.—Paris is calmly confident of victory.

Leon Bailly declares in L'Intransigeant that if the Germans gain an advantage now a third battle will be fought perhaps under the walls of Paris but in any event, he says, the defeat of the Germans is certain and the liberation of French territory assured. He compares the opposing armies to two duellists, one of whom is risking his life, while the other is taking the chance of a mere wound in the arm. The first doubtless will fight desperately for his life, but he will lose his presence of mind. The other is master of himself. He knows what he is doing and engages only at a chosen point and economizes his forces.

## BRITISH SINGLED OUT.

French's Army Beats Back Three Fierce German Attacks.

LONDON, Sept. 19.—The Times correspondent at Bordeaux telegraphs: "Throughout Thursday the whole front was engaged, the fight again being hottest on the left flank, where the turning movement is becoming defined. The enemy made a series of vigorous counter attacks. Field Marshal French's army has again been singled out for the enemy's particular attention, but their three attempts to get home upon it have been in vain.

"While the fighting is hard on the eastern half of their front, the Germans are digging hard in the centre from Reims to Argonne, and this probably will form the pivot of the battle."

## BRITISH REPEL ATTACK.

First Division Drives Back Germans During Night.

LONDON, Sept. 19.—The War Office issued the following statement to-day: "The situation remains unchanged. A counter attack against the first (British) division delivered during the night was driven back. The weather is bad and it is raining continuously."

## FRENCH PUSH AHEAD.

Occupy Several Places in the Valley of the Oise.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19.—The French Embassy gave out to-day the following official despatch received from Bordeaux: "The battle continued on the whole front from the River Oise to the River Woevre on the 18th without any important change in the situation at any point. 'At the left in the valley of the Oise we occupy Marquessie, Carlepoint and Cuts. On the heights to the north of the River Aisne we have advanced slightly in a few places. Three attacks attempted by the Germans against the English army have been checked at Troyon, between Soissons and Craonne. From Craonne to Reims we have repulsed the counter attack executed during the night. The enemy tried but has not succeeded in taking the offensive against Reims.

"At the centre, from Reims to the Argonne Mountains, the enemy is reinforcing his position by important fortifications and taking an attitude merely defensive. On the east of the Argonne and in the Woevre Valley the situation is unchanged. 'At the right in Lorraine and the Vosges the enemy occupy positions defensively organized close to the frontier."

## BRITONS PRAY, THEN CHARGE.

Wounded Men Shout Encouragement to Their Comrades.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. PARIS, via London, Sept. 19.—As an evidence of the spirit and devotion of the British troops the following is related. In the fighting north of the Aisne a regiment of infantry was ordered to take a German position.

The English soldiers, at a word from the chaplains, knelt for a moment in prayer. They rose from their knees and dashed forward in the charge, spreading in open order and alternately making short rushes and lying down. They suffered terribly from the fire of German machine guns, but nothing could stop them and they went on until they had swept over the position and captured the guns. Many who were shot shouted encouragement to their comrades.

## THE OPENING OF THE LAUREL HOUSE

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## War News in Brief

FRANCE.—The official communiqué issued last night says that the Germans in spite of their violent attack have not been able to make the slightest headway along the centre and that they have been continually repulsed from Reims. On the left wing the French captured a flag south of Noyon after a rather serious engagement, and on the Craonne plateau they captured many prisoners. They have advanced in the centre on the right bank of the Argonne.

GERMANY.—The report from Berlin says that the attacks of the allies along the entire battle front are being easily repulsed, and that a number of guns and prisoners have been captured. The report also says that Beaumont, near the Lorraine frontier, has been stormed by the Germans and 2,500 prisoners taken. The attempted invasion of the French over the Vosges into the Breisch Valley has been repulsed.

RUSSIA.—A despatch from St. Petersburg reports that the total loss of the Austrians in the Galician campaign was 350,000 men and over 400 cannon, besides trains of ammunition and food supplies. Headquarters reports that all the roads in Galicia field are congested and blocked with commissariat trains abandoned by the Austrians in their flight. The Russians have pushed the remnant of the Austrian army across the San.

It is reported that the retreat of Gen. Dankl's army has been cut off and that the Russians are enveloping it.

According to a St. Petersburg report the Russians have taken Sninyava, and the Austrians have abandoned and burned the fortress of Jaroslaw and destroyed the bridge over the San at that point. Communication with Przemyśl from the Austrian rear is thus cut off.

AUSTRIA.—The Government has sent troops to guard the southwest frontier owing to the nationalist demonstrations throughout Italy.

ITALY.—Throughout Sicily demonstrations in favor of war are being held and the Government is making no attempt to stop them. A nationalist memorial service was held in Rome in commemoration of the 4,000 natives of Trieste and Trentino, soldiers in the Austrian army, who were killed in Galicia.

## Capt. R. N. Grenfell Polo Player, Dead

Latest Casualty List Includes Lords Guernsey and Hay—21 Officers Slain.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Sept. 19.—Capt. R. N. Grenfell of the Buckingham Yeomanry, widely known as a polo player, has been killed in battle in France. His name appears on the list of casualties dated September 16 and made public to-night.

The names of Capt. Lord Guernsey, Capt. Lord A. V. Hay of the Irish Guards and Col. E. R. F. Baileau of the General Staff also appear among the dead on this latest list. All told the list contains the names of 21 officers killed, 40 wounded and 1 missing.

Lieut. David Cecil Bingham, second son of Gen. Cecil Bingham, who two years ago married Mrs. Samuel Sloane Channing of New York, has died from wounds received in action.

Among the wounded officers in tonight's list is Lieut. Hon. H. W. Gough, heir to Viscount Gough.

Capt. R. N. Grenfell and his brother, Capt. Francis Grenfell, both attached to the Ninth Lancers, were members of the Harehough polo team which played in the open championship tournament at Point Judith in 1910. Capt. R. N. Grenfell scored seven of the eight goals which won the championship.

The brother, Capt. Francis Grenfell, led a detachment which daringly saved two British guns recently. He was wounded later in the same encounter. Lord Guernsey was the eldest son and heir of the Earl of Aylesford. He was a second lieutenant in the Irish Guards. Lord Arthur Vincent Hay was a Captain in the Irish Guards. He was the second son of the tenth Marquis of Tweeddale and was heir to the United Kingdom Barony of Tweeddale now held by his elder brother, the present Marquis.

Col. Frank Ridley Farrer Boleau was attached to the General Staff, Third division. He served in India from 1889 to 1896, afterward was an assistant commissioner on the Anglo-German boundary commission in Central Africa and served in the South African war.

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## GERMANSTAKE 2,500 FRENCH AS PRISONERS

Storming of Beaumont Reported by Kaiser's General Staff in Berlin.

## FRENCH ATTACKS ON FRONT ARE REPULSED

Invasion of Alpine Riflemen Over the Vosges Range Also Fails.

BERLIN, Sept. 19, by wireless to Sayville, L. I.—The following official statement was issued to-day by the General Staff:

"It is reported that a decisive attack is being made by the Thirtieth and Fourth Army Corps and parts of other German divisions south of Noyon with loss.

"Beaumont has been stormed and 2,500 French prisoners captured. 'Attacks along the entire battle front are being easily repulsed. Many guns and prisoners have been captured, though the number is not yet available.

"The invasion of the Alpine riflemen over the Vosges into the Breisch Valley has been repulsed.

"The German eastern army continues its operation in Suwalki province and is advancing against the Russian forces.

"Despatches from Agram report that the victory over the Serbians was far greater than at first believed.

"The Serbians were completely routed and were driven in flight across the Save River. Many were drowned."

## BERLIN CRIES VICTORY.

General Staff Proclaims Full Confidence in Result.

BERLIN, via Rotterdam and London, Sept. 19.—Absolute confidence in the outcome of the engagement in France is shown by members of the General Staff in Berlin in private conversations. They say that the German army is growing stronger and that its lines of communication are now so adjusted as to furnish more efficiently a supply of provisions and ammunition. The army in its rapid advance on Paris to some extent distanced its supply columns.

The official bulletin issued last night says that the French army is showing

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## A Human Interest Story

An artist, a friend of the firm, called yesterday and told us the following incident, which occurred in the French town of Etaples, on the English Channel.

"A woman brought her supply of potatoes to the market for sale; all other market people had been selling at the same price as before the war, but she thought she saw a chance to make a little more profit and advanced her prices. The consequences were, that the people became so indignant that they threw her potatoes on the street and crushed them under their feet. The privilege of selling in the market was also denied her."

We feel as did those people about advancing prices at this time, when many have to economize.

Appropos of the above, we submit copy of the instructions under which our buyers are operating.

## "Instructions to Buyers."

"NO PRICES ARE TO BE ADVANCED beyond what they were on July 26th, THE DAY BEFORE the first declaration of war.

ALL NEW FALL GOODS are to be priced on the basis of what they would have been priced if no war existed."

JAMES A. HEARN & SON.

## LONE FRENCHMAN CAPTURES NINETY

They Were Strangers in Senlis and He Took Them In. Is the Story.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. PARIS, Sept. 19.—Excelior tells a story of how a single Frenchman, Marius Boiron, captured ninety Germans besides fifteen horses, a field kitchen, a carriage and other booty.

Boiron, who is an employee at the prefecture, was sent on a mission to Senlis. He was visiting the place when the cry was raised: "Les Prussiens! Les Prussiens!"

Boiron went toward the strangers. He met two German officers in a carriage drawn by two horses. They told him they were looking for an ambulance to wounded men. Boiron ordered the officers to get into his automobile. He drove to a village near which he found the rest of the officers, medical as well as military. Boiron told the Germans that French troops were encamped a short distance away and he made them give up their swords, guns and equipment of all sorts.

## LUNEVILLE PILLAGED.

More Than 100 Houses Burned by the Germans.

ROBESON, Sept. 19.—Sub-Prefect Minier of Luneville in a report to the Minister of the Interior says more than 100 houses have been burned in the three weeks of German occupation up to September 15.

Numerous acts of pillage have been committed and a contribution of \$30,000 gold has been exacted. Four hostages have been given daily to answer for the lives of the German troops.



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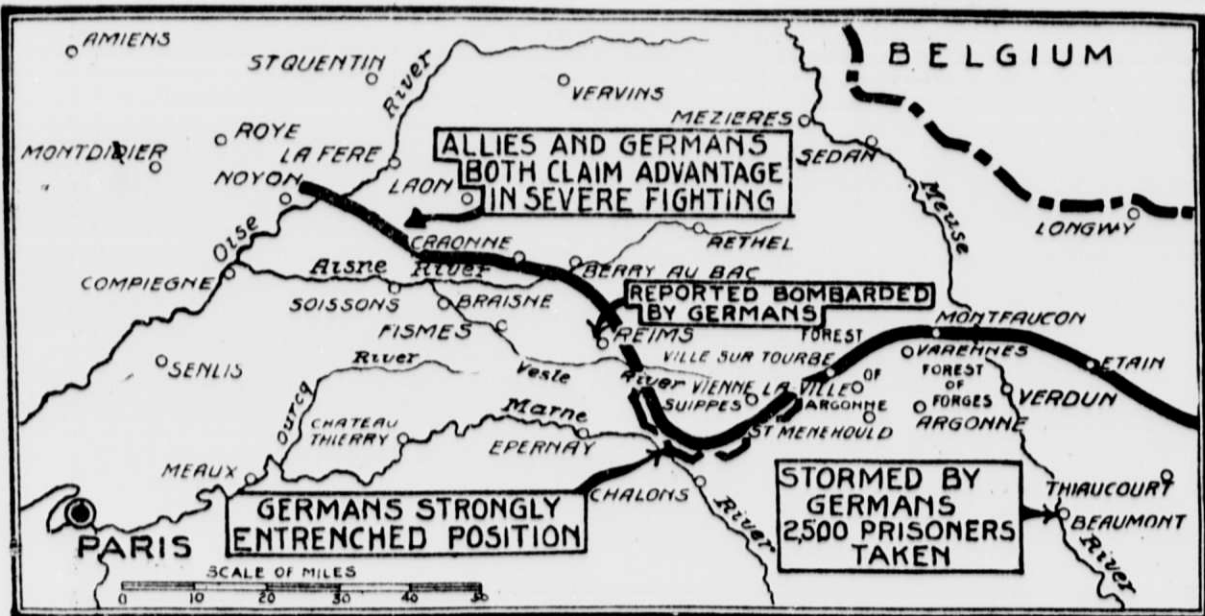
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The battle front of the Aisne remains practically unchanged. The Germans claim an advantage from an attack against the allies' line on the German right wing and on the left they claim the capture of Beaumont, with 2,500 prisoners.

The French, however, claim slight advantage on the left wing in the neighborhood of Noyon. They assert, too, that they hold all the heights on the right bank of the Aisne. The Germans stubbornly maintain their position in the deep trenches which they have dug along the centre.